

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**This listing of claims will replace all prior versions and listings of claims in the application:**

**LISTING OF CLAIMS:**

1. (previously presented): Magnesium hydroxide characterized in that it is synthesized by the reaction of a magnesium salt and a metal hydroxide, and characterized by having its surface treated with a reactive silicone.
2. (original): Magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1, characterized in that the magnesium salt and metal hydroxide are reacted in a temperature range of from 10 to 100°C.
3. (original): Magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1, characterized by a particle diameter in a range of from 10 nm to 10  $\mu$ m.
4. (canceled).
5. (previously presented): Magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1, characterized by its surface treated simultaneously with its synthesis.
6. (previously presented): Magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1, characterized by having its surface treated with a solution containing the reactive silicone.
7. (previously presented): Magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1, characterized in that an amount of surface treatment is from 1 to 2% by weight.

8. - 10. (canceled).

11. (previously presented): A composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle characterized in that it is obtained by reacting a magnesium salt and a metal hydroxide in the presence of silica particles, and characterized by having its surface treated with a reactive silicone.

12. (currently amended): A composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle characterized in that it is obtained by mixing a dispersion after synthesizing magnesium hydroxide by the reaction of a magnesium salt and a metal hydroxide, and a dispersion after synthesizing silica, and characterized by having its wherein the -surface of the composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle is treated with a reactive silicone.

13. (previously presented): A composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle characterized in that it is obtained by mixing magnesium hydroxide and silica mechanically, and characterized by having its surface treated with a reactive silicone.

14. (previously presented): A composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle characterized in that it is obtained by forming magnesium hydroxide and silica into a slurry with a solvent, and characterized by having its surface treated with a reactive silicone.

15. (original): The composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to claim 11 or 12, characterized in that the magnesium salt and metal hydroxide are reacted in a temperature range of from 10 to 100°C.

16. (previously presented): The composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to any one of claims 11 to 14, characterized by a particle diameter in the range of from 10 nm to 10 µm.

17. (canceled).

18. (previously presented): The composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to any one of claims 11 to 14, characterized by its surface treated simultaneously with its manufacture.

19. (previously presented): The composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to any one of claims 11 to 14, characterized by its surface treated with a solution containing the reactive silicone.

20. (previously presented): The composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to any one of claims 11 to 14, characterized in that an amount of surface treatment is from 1 to 2% by weight.

21. (original): A method of manufacturing composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle, characterized by reacting a magnesium salt and a metal hydroxide in the presence of silica particle.

22. (canceled).

23. (original): A method of manufacturing composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle, characterized by mixing magnesium hydroxide and silica mechanically.

24. (original): A method of manufacturing composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle, characterized by forming magnesium hydroxide and silica into a slurry with a solvent.

25. (previously presented): The method of manufacturing composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to claim 21, characterized by reacting the magnesium salt and metal hydroxide in a temperature range of from 10 to 100°C.

26. (currently amended): The method of manufacturing composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to ~~any one of~~ claims 21 to 24, characterized in that a particle diameter of the composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle is in the range of from 10 nm to 10  $\mu\text{m}$ .

27. (previously presented): A method of surface treatment characterized in that magnesium hydroxide or composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle with a reactive silicone, simultaneously with the synthesis or manufacture of magnesium hydroxide or composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle.

28. (canceled).

29. (original): The method of surface treatment according to claim 27, characterized in that the surface treatment is performed with a solution containing the reactive silicone.

30. (original): The method of surface treatment according to claim 27, characterized in that an amount of surface treatment is from 1 to 2% by weight.

31. (currently amended): A resin composition characterized by containing magnesium hydroxide according to claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1 to 7, or composite magnesium hydroxide-silica particle according to any one of claims 11 to 19 and a resin.~~

32. (previously presented): A resin composition characterized by containing magnesium hydroxide particle which is surface-treated with stearic acid, a silica particle and a resin.

33. and 34. (canceled).

35. (previously presented): The resin composition according to claim 32, characterized in that an amount of surface treatment is from 1 to 2% by weight per magnesium hydroxide.

36. (currently amended): The resin composition according to claim ~~32~~31, characterized in that the magnesium hydroxide particle is surface treated with stearic acid, a silica particle and a resin~~of magnesium hydroxide according to any one of claims 1 to 7.~~

37. (original): The resin composition according to claim 32, characterized in that the silica particle are of fumed or precipitated silica.

38. (original): The resin composition according to claim 37, characterized in that the silica particle is of fumed silica.

39. (original): The resin composition according to claim 32, characterized in that the silica particle has its surface treated with a methyl group.

40. (original): The resin composition according to claim 32, characterized by containing a total of from 30 to 50% by weight of magnesium hydroxide and silica particle.

41. (original): The resin composition according to claim 40, characterized by containing from 2 to 20% by weight of silica particles.

42. (currently amended): The resin composition according to claim 31 ~~or~~ 32,  
characterized in that the resin is low-density polyethylene.

43. (currently amended): An electric wire or cable having a sheath layer formed from a  
resin composition according to claim 31 ~~or~~ 32.